

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JERUSA 02323 211543Z

ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

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FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1578

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T JERUSALEM 2323

EXDIS DISTRIBUTE AS NODIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS 1 & 2

TAGS: PBOR, MARR, UNSC, IS, LE, XF

SUBJ: SARKIS' STATE OF MIND

1. URQUHART AUGUST 20 IN COURSE OF DESCRIBING HIS MEETING WITH SARKIS PREVIOUS DAY, CHARACTERIZED HIM AS A PATHETIC FIGURE. AT ONE STAGE SARKIS SAID, "WE ARE NOT A GOVERNMENT, WE ARE A INSTRUMENTALITY FOR PUTTING VARIOUS FACTIONS IN CONTACT WITH EACH OTHER." URQUHART SAYS HE STRONGLY URGED SARKIS NOT TO THINK OR SPEAK IN SUCH TERMS LEST, IF THIS WAS WHAT THE PRESIDENT OF LEBANON BELIEVED, IT BECOME A SELF-FULFILLING PROPHECY.

2. AFTER ARTICULATING HIS MANY COMPLAINTS AND FRUSTRATIONS, SARKIS SEEMED TO EXPERIENCE CATHARSIS. HE, AS WELL AS OTHER MEMBERS OF GOL WITH WHOM HE MET, EXPRESSED WARM APPRECIATION FOR URQUHART'S VISIT.

3. COMMENT: URQUHART CONSIDERS PRESENT MESS TO BE THE
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RESULT OF GOL MISCALCULATION AND INEPTNESS. HE IS AWARE OF STRENUOUS EFFORTS US HAS MADE TO TRY TO PERMIT LAF DEPLOYMENT. URQUHART ALSO CONSIDERS GOL CRITICISM OF BOTH US AND UN TO BE UNWARRANTED AND UNFAIR.
NEWLIN

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